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## Farmers Experience Meeting

### DEMONSTRATION WORK IN ROBESON COUNTY

#### Scientific Method of Farming and Any Old Way Contrast- ed---Some Pertinent Ques- tions

Having been employed as agent for farmers' co-operative demonstration work in the southern part of Robeson county for the past year, it is gratifying to know that the United States Department of Agriculture methods of preparation and cultivation are far superior to the common methods used in our county. Of their method I will give briefly: Preparation—deep and thorough pulverized seed bed; seed—carefully select the best; cultivation—intensive, every 7 to 10 days, but shallow and late. Of the common method I will give so that we may get the idea better: Preparation—shallow. Seed—any kind, just so they will come up. Cultivation—deep and just often enough to keep the grass from getting higher than the corn or cotton, and quit soon.

Now I will give you some of the results of the two methods, first of co-operative demonstrative work, the names of parties who worked some corn under this method, which ranged from 27 1-2 bushels to 129 bushels per acre. First, those who produced 100 bushels and above per acre: A. H. Leggett, J. S. Floyd and Andrew Smith. Second, those who produced 70 bushels and above per acre: R. A. Harden, J. A. Thompson, E. J. Nye, J. H. Bass. Third, those who produced 80 bushels and above per acre: M. Shephard, D. F. Phillips, N. D. McCommac, G. H. Floyd, John Bridgers, fourth, those who produced 70 bushels and above per acre: J. A. Stone, W. A. Graham, W. G. Graham, J. F. Parker. Fifth, those who produced 60 bushels and above per acre: W. H. Watts, Haynes Prevatt, F. B. Johnson, W. W. Lee, J. B. Walters, F. F. Purvis, G. L. Robeson, W. H. Harden, J. W. Burnes. Sixth, those who produced 50 bushels and above per acre: W. H. Faulk, J. T. Purvis, William Byrd, U. A. Bullock, W. P. Britt, O. T. Atkinson, G. B. Kinlaw, A. W. Harrington, H. G. Byrd, G. D. Floyd, P. H. Adams, J. F. Adams, F. W. Walters. Seventh, those who produced 40 bushels and above per acre: E. H. Prevatt, W. H. Allen, W. A. Sealey, H. E. Purvis, J. P. Britt, Offie Quay, W. O. Sellars, B. W. Pittman, J. H. Johnson, A. Davis, J. C. Carlyle, S. L. Parker, W. A. Leggett, L. D. Pittman, Wright Leggett, J. F. Walters, W. A. Griffin.

Now the common method of preparation, seed and cultivation on similar land ranged from 10 bushels to 50 bushels per acre. Those who worked cotton on the demonstration method ranged from 1,100 to 3,758 pounds in the seed per acre, while on the common method on similar land ranged from 600 pounds to 1,500 pounds in the seed per acre.

This is a lesson in which we all might be benefited. We see by this that there is science in agriculture and that the farmer needs to be educated for his work as much so as the doctor and lawyer for their work. Not only does the demonstration work give us scientific methods on corn and cotton, but all phases of farm work, from raising the biddie to the horse.

The thing that all we farmers should do with the corn record we have this year per acre is to ask ourselves the following questions:

Why should we farmers of Robeson county make cotton to buy corn when we can make more money on corn than on cotton at the present prices?

Why should we make cotton to buy mules and horses when we can raise them cheaper than we can raise the cotton to buy them with?

Why should we buy meat and beef when we can raise it as cheap as the Western man?

### IS BOY CORN KING

#### Charlie Parker Wins Out in Sweepstakes in Event in Columbia, S. C.

Charlie Parker, of Hertford county, has sustained his right to be known as "The Boy Corn King." And he has done this in South Carolina, the home of his nearest rival, Jerry Moore.

This was at the South Atlantic Corn Show, recently held at Columbia, S. C., the full report of which has just been made public. Mr. I. O. Schaub, in charge of the boys' corn club work in this State who has just returned from Columbia yesterday told of North Carolina's big winnings. As to Charlie Parker's sweepstakes prize the award was made by him and by Mr. C. B. Haddon, of Clemson, in charge of the boys' corn club work in South Carolina.

The awards which come to North Carolina were as follows: Sweepstakes prize, a silver cup, offered by the Progressive Farmer, to Charlie Parker, of Hertford

for the best record of crop; sweepstakes for the best 50 ears of corn to J. W. Lewis, of Boomer, Wilkes county; sweepstakes for a best single ear of corn to T. C. Goodwin, of Apex; sweepstakes for the best single ear of corn, boys' class, to Charles Lewis, of Boomer, Wilkes county. As against these one sweepstakes prize for the best 10 ears of corn in boys' class, went to South Carolina and one sweepstakes prize for the best 10 ears of corn, boys' and men's class, went to Georgia.

It is to be noted that in the contest for the largest yield of corn to an acre Charlie Parker raised 235 1-2 bushels of corn, harvested measure, reduced to 196 bushels, 12.21 moisture, crib dried, while Jerry Moore, of South Carolina, raised 228 bushels of corn to the acre harvest measure, without any record as to the crib dry measure.

Why should we spend so much money for commercial fertilizer when we can grow the legumes that will increase the productiveness of our soils?

In conclusion, Brother Farmer, let's be farmers and raise something to sell and let the other folks be the ones to buy. Farmers are the only men who produce, and if we be buyers of what we ought to produce we are not farming as we ought. Are we?

H. F. PURVIS.

Collaborator, Orrum, N. C.

### A Large Wheat Crop and a Volunteer Crop

(Statesville Landmark.)  
Talking about late wheat sowing, Mr. T. D. Miller recalls that back in the '80s Mr. John Fields, a Coddie Creek farmer, sowed wheat the second week in February and harvested a crop which measured ten bushels to every one sowed. Mr. Miller also mentioned in this connection that he gathered a volunteer wheat crop in 1882 which averaged five bushels to the acre. The wheat scattered on the ground the previous harvest failed to sprout during the summer on account of the protracted drought of 1881, but when the rains came in the fall it voluntarily took root and produced chop.

### Good Farming in Pitt

(Pitt County News.)

Mr. Graham Whitehurst, who lives near Parmele, Bethel township, reports that from three acres of corn he measured 210 bushels. The only commercial fertilizer used was 200 lbs. guano and 100 lbs. soda per acre. With the same quantity of fertilizer he raised 1,000 lbs. of lint cotton. Now that is farming some, and not expensive either, and is the kind we love to see.

### Successful Stock Raising

(Lincoln County News.)

Mr. Clarence Coon, besides being a stalwart Democrat and an all-round fine fellow, is also somewhat of a successful stock raiser. On last Wednesday he hauled fifteen pigs to Bessemer City and sold out in quick order. He raked in about forty-five "bucks" for his trouble. He sells on an average of fifty or sixty pigs each year and realizes a handsome profit thereon. Mr. Coon believes that it pays to raise only the best stock. He bought a Jersey cow recently that represents an outlay of \$110. This cow will yield on an average of 1,000 pounds milk per year, making 5 per cent butter fat. The ordinary scrub cow will hardly yield half that much milk and the percentage of butter fat is from 3 to 4. Notice the difference? Now it takes just as much or a little more to feed an old scrub and this kind of a cow is simply not in the race with a well-bred Jersey. Mr. Coon says that in the future it is only the best for him.

### Got His \$100

(Lexington Dispatch.)

Mr. P. D. Finch, the champion corn grower of Davidson county, received a check Monday from Mr. W. G. Cooper, secretary of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, for \$100, covering his winnings in the great corn show recently closed there. This crowns Mr. Finch the champion corn grower of the State of North Carolina and the second in the entire South. Only one man made a larger yield and he was ruled out because of the fact that his report was not properly certified.

### Farmers Advised to Decrease Acreage of Cotton for 1912

To the Editor:—I see many suggestions by various organizations and farmers' conventions planning for the benefit of the farmers and to fix for farmers to hold their cotton in order to raise the price. They can, in my opinion, help the cause and materially raise the price as every one knows that twelve-cent cotton is reasonable and that farmers can raise it for 10 to 12 cents per pound. I don't believe in a monopoly, but the farmers have a monopoly on the cotton production of the South, as the United States has only about five per cent of the population of the world and out Southern States raise about 70 per cent of the cotton for the world. South America, Egypt and India are the other countries which grow a little cotton, but it is all inferior to ours except India, and they can't grow any great amount. So it is very important that the farmers try to arrange to be a little uniform in their plans and reduce their acreage at least 30 per cent for 1912. The cotton market being bulled beyond reason for the past two years is what induced the farmers to put in such a large acreage last spring. The manufacturers have been holding off, not buying cotton, ever since they saw such a large acreage planted in cotton, because they were sure beyond a doubt that there would be lower prices, and thus entailing a loss to them. I remember how some of the bulls criticized and ridiculed Secretary Wilson's report, saying it was erroneous and very uncalled for. This was all because some of them were "long" and they saw it meant a loss if the market dropped very suddenly on that estimate of 14,750,000 bales for the commercial crop. This crop would exceed that by far if all the cotton were saved. The very low price and high price of picking will cause a great deal to be plowed in under wheat and oats. The farmers throughout the South are plowing in cotton and sowing wheat and oats; some of them selling 8-cent cotton and buying 80-cent corn.

Mr. Farmer, remember the disastrous fallacy of planting all or most of your crop in cotton. Plant about 70 per cent of 1911 acreage and the balance of crop in corn and peas and you will have no cause to fuss with the bulls or bears, Mr. Farmer.

So hold to your spots and borrow money, to meet your obligations. You can better afford to do this than to sell it at 8c, and plant a full acreage next year. The world knows that cotton is cheap at 10c., and the remainder of this year's crop ought to bring 10 to 12c. per pound for all middling cotton. So hold spots and shorten acreage; and buy July and October at or below 9c. By all means, Mr. Farmer shorten your acreage.

Yours truly,  
CHAS. BRINN.

Swan Quarter, N. C.

### LESS ACRES; MORE MONEY

(Greensboro Record.)

A man who recently purchased forty acres of land in this county dropped in at a lawyer's office the other day to have him examine the title to the purchase, when the lawyer asked him if he could make a living on the forty acres. "If I can't I can sell half of it and I know I can," was the quick response. And the man spoke a parable. Twenty acres well tilled is better than fifty acres half tilled. The man knows this for he said he had tried it, almost perishing once on a fifty-acre farm. Then he sold off thirty acres and made money.

### Picked 518 Pounds of Cotton

(The Robesonian.)

Curtis Jones, an Indian who lives on the place of J. V. Oxendine, on Route No. 1 from Lumberton, picked 518 pounds of cotton one day recently on Mr. R. E. Lewis' place, same route, about five miles from Lumberton. That is an astounding amount of cotton for one man to pick out by his lonesome in one day with his two hands.